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[illegible] with the [illegible] of the [illegible] and [illegible] possibly [illegible] of the [illegible] of the quantity and quality of certain minerals they are likely [illegible]. A [illegible] of the fossils is of great interest to [illegible] and of great value [illegible] the progress of Geology, and it would [illegible] in the hands of somebody specially skilled in that [illegible] to be studied, described and published. As our libraries here in Japan are [illegible] in the [illegible] of [illegible] nothing [illegible] of a more [illegible] it would probably be best to send the fossils abroad. There are yet too few fossils and too little prospect of their additions to the number hardly to justify the employment here for the present at least of a foreign palaeontologist for these alone. For the education of the youth of Japan in general it would however no doubt be desirable to have such a foreigner come here; and if one should come, the fossils might be turned over to him.

Tokio; 3 Dec. 1873.

To the Hon^ble K. Kuroda
Jikwan of the Kaitakushi;

Dear Sir:

I have long been hoping to celebrate next Tuesday the end of my first year's service for the Kaitakushi by a little dinner at which you would be the chief guest. Pray be so kind as to inform me if you would favor me with your company and whether that evening or some other would best suit your convenience.

Believe me, dear Sir,
Very truly yours
Benj. Smith Lyman.

Friday, 3 Dec. 1943.

My dear Mr. Lincoln

Thank you for

Dear Sir:

Please keep them handy for
me until you receive further
instructions from me. I am
sorry that we could not
make use of them. Thank you for the kind
offer, however, it was very much
appreciated.

Yours very truly,

Miss Mary Lincoln

Shiba; 3 Dec. 1873.

To the Officer in charge of the Household Matters of Foreigners
Kaitakushi
Shiba.

Sir:

My servants fetch it a long distance from their quarters and my bath some pond or well, and say that an easily laid water pipe would very greatly lessen their labors. I beg therefore that the laying of such a pipe may be arranged.

At the same time I beg that the carpenter may be authorized to enlarge a little the standing place in my bath room, so as to be large enough for two 'tatami', which the size of the bath tub would permit. If there be two old worn out tatami that could be laid there and covered perhaps with a bit of one of the rejected carpets just now taken from the Japanese rooms, I should be very thankful.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Benj. Smith Lyman

Vienne, 3 Déc. 1793.

Mon Général,

Je suis

Mon Général

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur

Le Général de Division

Commandant en Chef

l'Armée des Alpes

Kellermann

Yedo, 4 Dec. 1873.

My dear Mr. Satow:

I am very sorry to learn by letter of this morning that you have been so sick. You must try to come here tomorrow if you can, for the Empress is going to pay the Kaitakushi a visit about ten o'clock and all our consultants are to be exhibited among the other wonders of the place; and if any explanations are asked for in regard to our work your aid as interpreter will be needed. Besides that, we wish to make as imposing an appearance in regard to numbers as possible. I trust that your disease will prove to resemble ~~[illegible]~~ a wonderful old affection formerly common in England and called the King's evil because it was cured by the touch of a king; and that the mere appearance of the Empress will set you on your legs again temporarily at least.

Do whichever you find most convenient about the books: either send them to me or wait until you are well and go with me to the bookseller's shop. I am in no very great hurry; but think I shall [illegible] by and by [illegible] them.

Yours very truly

E. Peshine Smith

[illegible], 7 Dec. 18[illegible]

Dear Mr. Satow,

If you feel quite well enough and have no more engagements [illegible] I should be [illegible] if you would come to my room [illegible] the evening [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] Mr. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

If not [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

Yours [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

My dear Father:

The great event of the past fortnight & the great day of the year in this Kitte… somewhat [illegible] Kaitakushi building has been a visit from the Empress of Japan, day before yesterday. It had been given time before that she was coming some day to see the Dutch ladies' girls' school here, for she was much pleased with an exhibition of them last summer at the Kaitakushi farms a couple of miles from here. Last Wednesday however word came to me that she was going also to see the boys' school and my assistants and the building generally. That afternoon also notice came that the visit would take place on Friday. Accordingly on Thursday morning, by daylight or earlier, a great racket all over the building began, small repairs in all directions made by the carpenters, scrubbing off the accumulated dust of years, tearing off the old paper of the sliding screens and pasting on new, sweeping and mowing the floors, mending the broken glass windows and all kinds of setting in order. The running to and fro about and work lasted all day and was renewed next morning with even twice of the same disturbance through the night. The first plan had been to throw off my assistants alone but word came Thursday afternoon in the midst of cleaning up our working room that the emperor

would not come that way and that we should take
our places among the crowd of other young men.
Obtained & welcome [illegible] the entrance to the yard.
We foreigners were notified to be in a certain room
at ten o'clock, where we found chairs labeled with our
names placed in the order in which we were to be led into
the presence of the Empress in a neighboring room. Mrs
Griffis was then she arrived and we were recently
called and went into the room where she was
sitting with four of her ladies standing on her right
and some gentlemen on her left. As we came in
we formed a good part of a semi-circle before
her and bowed. A middle aged gentleman
who proved to be the chief officer of the Empress's
household, a department of government that stands
next above the Kaitakushi, gave her a signal and she
stood up and slightly nodded to us. She remained
standing and one of the chief officers of the Kaitakushi
who were standing on one side told us in English that her
majesty was pleased to see us. Then at another signal
from the gray haired gentleman she sat down again and
we after bowing again withdrew by the same way we
had come and in the reverse order. The whole thing
was a not uninteresting ceremony specially to those
of us who saw the Tenno for the first time like myself.
I stared at him and her attendants with great curiosity
and was much interested in the novelty of the affair.
He, according to custom here, showed no trace of any

pushing shutters, and looking ...
over all the group of sovereigns. The Sovereign ...
room we had been in and from the windows and
the thirty or more school boys go through some gym
nastic exercises very well for the entertainment of
the ladies a young Russian who teaches the school
teaches all small boys, read her in the meantime an
address it is said, and one of the school boys repeat
some English poetry to her. After the gymnastics we
all went to our own rooms, the empress having
gone into the Dutch ladies' part of the building
who were not therefore of our party in the presen
tation. I had been notified at eight o'clock to
be present in a certain room near the main en
trance of the building, the one by which the empress
go away, the furthest one from the school entrance
by which she had come; and that there would be
some maps and other things there for me to explain
to her. So I went there and waited as patiently as
I could for some three hours until after two be
fore she came along. She had been not only in
specting the girls' school but lunching at the Dutch
ladies' rooms though the lunch according to custom in
such cases was brought from the palace, and listening
to some music, violin, piano and vocal, made by the
Dutch ladies and their friend Capt. Koning. The court
photographers had also photographed the Empress and
Dutch ladies in a group by her desire.

[illegible]

visited, [illegible] photographic [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] been established near my rooms within a few months. At length the arrival, [illegible] no doubt [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] so long and so unaccustomed a visitation. After things, in great part borrowing, had been [illegible] for her to look at and I was brought forward [illegible] my excellent interpreter [illegible] to explain [illegible] here then behold your [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] giving a lecture to the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] perfection of aristocratic exclusiveness, the [illegible] of Japan! Perhaps the wide range and magnitude of the subjects treated of is no less astonishing: astronomy, geology, paleontology, mining, mineralogy, climatology, surveying; all within half an hour or so, one half the time of course taken up by the interpreting, and some time by the interruptions of the [illegible] and others. The oddity of the whole occurrence was quite a novel sensation to me, [illegible] has [illegible] upset me. There was an array of geological and paleontological charts of Prof. Hall's, a picture of the interior of a coal mine, a map of Yesso and neighboring islands, [illegible] of the underground workings of the Kayanuma coal mine, a historical representation of all varieties of [illegible] a couple of globes, a number of large coal samples, and some [illegible] [illegible] the rough [illegible] [illegible] drawing to [illegible]. We walked [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

was after all rather [illegible] of [illegible]
a very good opportunity of hearing [illegible]
very coolly improved. He [illegible] very
and rather ungracefully and looked at things rather
attentively but with no kind of interest. He looked
naturally bright enough though not very [illegible] in this
way, but looked uncultivated as other [illegible]. There is
however some [illegible] among the Japanese for in-
telligence. She looked young enough perhaps eighteen
though she has been married four or five years. She
has no children; but that defect may be supplied to
her husband by a number of concubines that
are allowed him by the customs of the country they
so differs from his subjects in that respect. She has
rather a long face, with a long chin, a good enough
nose not turned up but slightly roman in shape and
small in size, a very small rather pursed up mouth
with extremely red lips probably painted. Her cheeks
the rest of the front part of her face was artificially
whitened with some kind of powder, which made
at a distance rather a dazzling effect; but close by
you could see near the edges of it where the natural
skin, pretty dark; but not darker than [illegible] young
good looking women with us. Her hair was done up
in a most extraordinary style, [illegible]
[illegible] out very broadly [illegible]
and [illegible] with [illegible]

him [illegible] the woman [illegible] sitting [illegible]
white [illegible] that they would [illegible] was [illegible]
up to a great age, and no trace of her [illegible] the
way to the [illegible]. Her dress was [illegible], but I
am unable to describe it further, except that there
was no train dragging along. Her stature was short
like that of most Japanese. Her face reminded me of the
[illegible] appearance though the [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] nothing of the intellectual [illegible]. The daughter
also is not very good looking, though [illegible]
the upper part of her face. The four [illegible]
whatever they were, looked still less comely than the
empress and little if at all more intelligent, though
one of them looked very much older and uglier.
There were besides two women with some black in
their dress that made their appearance [illegible] on the [illegible]
left me some and got into the carriage. The [illegible]
who had entered the room with the [illegible] were
gaily dressed in green and other colors. They were all
whitened as to their faces and had [illegible] the [illegible]
puffy cheeks, flabby looking. Though [illegible]
[illegible] feeling in regard to what was passing, [illegible]
I perceived a little [illegible] at [illegible]
[illegible] I [illegible] [illegible]
that she was if anything [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

Contrary to [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible]
with [illegible] [illegible]
body else as to the [illegible] thing [illegible] among, [illegible]
[illegible] mind [illegible]
much interested in [illegible]
really the discourse [illegible]
addressed to him, [illegible]
a poorly stuffed white weasel [illegible]
animal from [illegible] the name [illegible]
'[illegible]' was given to the Empress with [illegible].
The wide door of our little room [illegible] right upon
the front door of the dwelling, and the [illegible]
out and down the two or three steps, and got into the
large carriage with the help of [illegible]
who followed her. The [illegible] [illegible] inside
of the large glasses of the coach were pulled down, and
the large black horses were driven away by one
of the gold laced coachmen [illegible]
imperial flag between them. The [illegible]
[illegible] the carriages [illegible]
followed her away. [illegible]
and officers up to the [illegible]
[illegible] in the yard [illegible]
my interpreter and [illegible]
[illegible] as [illegible]
[illegible]

a holiday for the clerks, as already was public offices. To day the offices are shut and there a little more stir. [illegible] coming from Philadelphia on Saturday and they find your [illegible] Kaiserhaus, and I shall be by 5 dinner this evening at which occasion of many officers of the Kaiserhaus will be present, Russian will be the only foreigner. [illegible]

No letter and very few papers came from the last American mail [illegible] conjectured that the [illegible] detained [illegible] by contrary winds [illegible]

Please give my [illegible]

[illegible]; 21 Dec. 18[illegible].

[illegible] [illegible] Esq.
Interpreter
[illegible]

My dear Sir:

The [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] remind me that the affairs of Messrs. [illegible] and [illegible] is still to be decided by him as [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] day. I [illegible] therefore that you [illegible] [illegible] before any decision can be made, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] further complaint on my any part against them. Lying was the most grievous of their offences and as I have [illegible], especially within a day or two, on the strength of the temptation to lying in this country, it seems here a [illegible] [illegible] vice, bad as it is. Although it quite [illegible] a man for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], yet [illegible] [illegible] leave for my [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] any worse punish[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] deserved, and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

work. I do not wish to make further mention of the shortcomings that is necessary to excuse myself from what seems to me the unnecessary delays they caused.

Perhaps however this would be a good occasion to ask that I be unfortunately neglected by the Hon. Secretary for the promotion of Mr. Abingman who has so distinguished himself from the others by his untiring faithfulness and steadfast honesty in his duties, and by his generous aid and praiseworthy zeal in surveying even with severe weather although not required by his duty to do so. Perhaps a reward of this kind to him alone would be a heavier sort of punishment to those men who have not deserved anything better. If this seems to you also a good opportunity, please make this request for me, and greatly oblige

Yours very truly

Benj. Smith Lyman

Tokei: 21 Dec. 1873.

My dear Mr. Satow

Please give me if you can the addresses (street and house) of these gentlemen and say whether they have wives or not: Messrs. Enomoto, Nishimura, Arai, Hori, & Genl. Capron; thinking of including some or all of them in his invitation, and as the offices are closed to day, I beg the information of you. If you cannot give it all perhaps you can refer me to some gatekeeper here or at the Gaimusho who can give it.

Please answer by the bearer and oblige

Yours very truly,

Benj. Smith Lyman

Phila. 26 Dec. 1883.

My dear Mr. Peters:

I have to thank you most heartily for the beautiful flowers that your friend sent yesterday morning. They are a most appropriate Christmas present, just what I [illegible] for a good while. They enabled me to celebrate the day with pleasure, and made my room look quite gorgeous.

Hoping to have a chance to thank you in person before long, I remain

Yours very truly

Benj. Smith Lyman

[illegible] Jan 1903.

My dear Mr. [illegible]:

Please accept this atlas as a token, not only of friendship but of gratitude for the many many favors that I have begun and for all the [illegible] that you are constantly bestowing so kindly on my library. As it is perhaps hardly safe to offer a book to such a book buyer as you, I beg that if you already have such an atlas you will let me change this for something else.

Wishing you a happy New Year, I remain always

Very truly yours,
Benj. Smith Lyman

Friday 9 Jan. 1874.

Dear Mr. Eaton;

Would you kindly send word by the man going to the florist to have those plants in the Wardian case ready to send to Yokohama by the [illegible] have been [illegible] to go down there shortly and would like to attend to sending them [illegible] the steamer the [illegible] as it will be difficult for me to go there again soon. Perhaps it would be [illegible] the florist to send some one with the case all the way to Yokohama. Please ask him to [illegible] when they will be ready.

Begging pardon for troubling you [illegible] these [illegible] affairs, I remain

Yours very truly

[illegible]

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[illegible]

[illegible] confined to the [illegible]

[illegible] years [illegible]

[illegible] and [illegible] been [illegible]

[illegible] very useful and [illegible]

[illegible] will [illegible]

[illegible] will be taken up [illegible]

[illegible] and [illegible]

[illegible] accomplished [illegible] and [illegible]

[illegible] in any event [illegible]

[illegible] necessary to do what we can and make the best of it.

[illegible] always very glad to hear from you and about your [illegible] daughter and hope you are both doing well. I am [illegible] for the newspapers that [illegible] [illegible] this winter, but [illegible]

[illegible]

Shiba, 11 Jan. 1876.

To the Hon. Ch. K. Kuroda,

Kaitakuchōkwan.

Sir:

I beg to suggest that I am in want of assistants in addition to the [illegible] and it would be highly desirable to have them [illegible] the chief ones immediately. The time is very short at any rate for training the young men to do the work in the spring; and it would be particularly advisable for them to begin work and to make some special [illegible], as [illegible] to commence, as it would be bad to have the new comers fall behind at the outset.

In regard to the number of additional assistants even a large number of young men could be profitably employed in making such surveys for roads as were described in my letter of the 28th of November last. A smaller number could be occupied in the geological surveys alone.

I would recommend that they be selected from among those who have a little knowledge of English; for it is [illegible]

have the instruction as given as to be understood [illegible] by purely Japanese scholars. The age of the assis[tants] should hardly be less than that of those already [illegible] in America, even if they [illegible] and [illegible] knowledge and experience as they would be too [illegible] to bear the responsibility of [illegible] the instructors [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] is [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] these young men who are [illegible] to [illegible] the work, and not those who [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] for it.

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Benj. Smith Lyman.

½ Boxes blackboard chalk.
17 B[illegible]
1 [illegible] Medallions.
1 [illegible] shell lac.
31 [illegible]

[illegible] apparatus.

1 [illegible]
7 [illegible] pans [illegible]
[illegible] blowpipe lamps.
5 Blowpipe candle sticks.
10 Blowpipe boxes.
5 Bits of platinum wire.
4 Blowpipe [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
5 Mattrasses with [illegible] box.

---

2 Boxes of drawers.
2 Long [illegible] tables.
1 [illegible] table.
7 [illegible]
2 [illegible]
1 Stool.

1 broken stool.
1 Hibachi.
5 [illegible] boxes.
2 Black board rubbers.
2 bracket lamps.

---

12 Axes [illegible]
[illegible] hatchets [illegible]
[illegible]
1 [illegible]
2 [illegible]
2 Picks.
3 Wedges.
6 Large geological hammers.
6 [illegible] geological [illegible]
3 [illegible]
16 Hammer belts (black).
10 Red leather belts.
10 Leather bags.
4 Packages of Mercury.

E. E.
[illegible]
[illegible] 1874.

[Copy]

Kaitakushi, Tokei
17th of 1st Month
Anno 7th Meiji.

Honorable Horace Capron
Commissioner & Adviser
Dear Sir

In order to terminate the Contract of Dr. Thomas Antisell employed under this Department I send to you the annexed letter to him which you will please transmit him after you looked over.

Yours very respectfully
[illegible]
[illegible]
Kaitakushi [illegible]

(Copy.)

Hitotsubashi, Tokei,
[illegible] of [illegible] Month
[illegible] Meiji [illegible]

Dr. [illegible]

Sir,

Your term of engagement terminating on the thirty-first of [illegible] month of the [illegible] year Meiji — which is near at hand; and there not being much particular [illegible] at present under this Department [illegible] you, and for the education in our school such arrangement cannot yet be made as to trouble you; this Department must [illegible] to terminate your contract, [illegible] salary on the term agreed upon.

At the same time we beg to express that your services [illegible] displayed for the interest of this Department are fully appreciated and [illegible] much for the [illegible] in this Government.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Abe: 4th Jan. 1861.

Dear Mary:

Here it is, mail day again [illegible] morning day earlier than I had been given to expect [illegible]. There has been but one mail for a month past for some reason and so I have not written you about four weeks. Meantime yours of the 19th of November came to hand on the last day but one of December very late. Still worse, the letter you answered was written early in August. The news you gave of Lizzy's improved health and of [illegible]'s was most welcome; and your account of passing events in the family and in Northampton interesting as always. The past month here has been an unusually busy one. In the first place there were Christmas and New Year's for which the Schools of the [illegible] and [illegible] had a vacation from Christmas [illegible] until the [illegible] of January; but my time was after all so taken [illegible] great [illegible] was [illegible] by dint of hard work all Christmas day and [illegible] [illegible] I managed to finish my preliminary [illegible] on the [illegible] work giving its [illegible] [illegible] waiting to finish the [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] which will occupy me the rest of the winter. I hope to have it printed either here or in America. [illegible] [illegible]. Another morning my [illegible] came to my room and having lighted a lamp [illegible]

[illegible] that there was a [illegible]; and [illegible] out to the south the cloudy sky was all red. It proved to be the big temple Zozoji of which I sent a little photograph last year. It was about three hundred yards only from the building we foreigners of the Kaitakushi all inhabit, but as there was scarcely a breath of wind and that away from us we did not feel alarmed, except [illegible] some of the ladies. Before I had dressed my faithful Japanese Kaitaku man was at my door with lantern in hand, although he lives a mile or two off to the northeast. He went with me to see the fire, which was a very fine sight, for the building was all of wood and with many enormous beams and posts. After watching it a while we came back and looked in vain for any of the ladies to remove any alarm they might feel, and then as the light was still very bright to go to bed by, I went back again to the fire and saw the roof fall in and the flames thereupon reinforced. The enormous bell of the temple hung in a separate belfry close to the ground, and as that was burning some of us waited long without success to see the bell fall; but it did fall afterwards. The temple was most thoroughly consumed. At first it seemed likely to be an incendiary fire in consequence of a change from Buddhist to Shinto hands in the last year; but afterwards it was said by the Japanese that it was accident, that the priests were carousing in honor of the New Year and the fire caught from an [illegible]. Although it was so near and the light so bright [illegible]

[illegible] was [illegible] but then it had been a [illegible] [illegible] 7
before when there was a fire in the other side the city
a mile off and a wind blowing nearly towards
us. Fortunately the whole building was aroused
scholars and all and the corridors lighted
around in the evening, and there was a [illegible]
of running to and fro and slamming of doors.
[illegible] persons might [illegible] and [illegible]
packing up valuables. — Yesterday was snowy
all day, the snow having begun [illegible]
and I did not go outside the building to make calls
as some did. I called on Mrs. [illegible] and just
before coming away Mr. Louis Janvier came in
and he came with me to my room, and then
we called on Mrs. Day. The Dutch ladies had
gone to Yokohama for a few days. Mrs. Day is a
distant relative of Mr. Wm. Greene of Rhode Island,
his cousin, and Greene was her maiden name.
Her husband is lieutenant in our navy and is now
on leave of absence, and is at work on the trigono-
metrical survey of Japan, along with Mr. Wasson.
He is a musician and a vocalist, ~~unfortunately~~ generally
engaged in preaching and [illegible] history in [illegible]
[illegible]; but otherwise a worthy individual [illegible]
I [illegible] particular fancy to her husband; but she
[illegible] spoken of him, as I [illegible] [illegible]

with and they seem rather to [illegible] [illegible]

pity owing in part to some prejudice against their
the Catholic faction with which they seem to be on very
familiar terms. I forgot to mention in [illegible]
order whether it was mentioned in my last letter that
on the twenty first of December I had a dinner
party with eleven guests besides myself, all invitations
having been accepted. There were here the Caprons, the
Days, Munroe, Watson, Lamin, the Dutch ladies, [illegible]
Osaka their friend, and Dr. Beukema to whom one
of the Dutch ladies Miss [illegible] Walter is engaged and is to be
married next month. The evening seemed to go off
pleasantly well. On the 22d the Caprons had a party
of fifty invitations or more in honor of Mr. Bingham
and his family who came up to spend the day.
So the party was by daylight and a very agreeable
party it was. Three Japanese ladies were present
besides several Japanese gentlemen, including Sawada
Om, Iwakura being unable himself on account of
sickness. I had the honor of waiting on Mrs. Iwakura
to the refreshment room, and tried to talk a
little Japanese to her. There was music and a little
dancing, which she had never before seen. Neither
had she ever seen foreign music in print before. About
ten days ago it was announced that Mr. Ene
moto had been transferred from our department
(where he was at the head of the mining bureau)
to and that he will go to the Navy Department.

[illegible] the second rank there instead of fourth here as his own Admiral. A few days later it was made known that he was to go to Russia as Ambassador; and since that our man [illegible] interpreter, Mr. [illegible] has been trying to get the appointment from him of secretary of legation; and at his request I did what I could to recommend him, although I shall be sorry to lose him from our corps. The number of our men was also increased after the promotion by some others who were fellow students of the rest last year in the Institute of Tokei, before it was taken up; so that now there are thirteen of these younger assistants besides three older of them and Mr. Munroe, in all fourteen Japanese and one American. Mr. Schaitke, who was Mr. Munroe's quartermaster in Yezo, and with him a bookkeeper all summer, has within a few days been appointed governor of the department of Yezo including the coal mine. A week ago after the addition to the number of our assistants, and without waiting for the return of three or four of them from their visits home, I began giving the young men special instruction in geology and mineralogy in the form of hastily ill-prepared lectures, one a day and four a week, two apiece [illegible]. The mapping and other work leaves me little or no time to prepare such lectures. — The great news however is the attempted assassination of Iwakura which took place about a week ago. He was coming home from the Emperor's palace about 8 o'clock at night in a small carriage with a [illegible]